

## EUROPEAN STATESMEN FAVOR WILSON'S PLAN TO HELP EFFECT LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

Objections to England's  
Navy—Laws of Sea to  
Be Made Jointly.

(By David Lawrence.)

Paris, Dec. 25.—(Special Cable.)

Y. Evening Post.—President

Wilson is making headway in his

inferences with European states-

men, for practically all thus far

have agreed to their best to effect

the league of nations. When it is

concluded that until recently a dispo-

sition was prevalent to regard as

highly academic and impracticable

all plans for a league of world pow-

ers, and to place real faith in special

understandings and agreements, the

admission to examine in a spirit of

openness and now for the first time

has to suggest and to do the

most to carry them out must be

viewed as something tangible.

It is a forward step, indeed, when

the minor Clemenceau himself ex-

presses his willingness to do all pos-

sible to create a league of nations at

peace conference. Statesmen

presenting Italy have done the

same thing, there is no reason to

suppose that the British view will

be different and there is a confident

expectation here that beliefs ex-

pressed by Mr. Lloyd

George, Sir Edward Grey and Mr.

Northcliffe, mean that the

great powers of the world have con-

sented to approach the problem of

league of nations with the well-

known purpose of reaching an

agreement, making possible the cre-

ation of such a structure at the ear-

liest possible moment.

President Wilson has no disposi-

tion to sidetrack all other questions,

especially territorial ones, until a

league of nations has been effected,

discussion of everything that the

diligent desire will unquestion-

ably go on at the same time, but the

fact is that the American mission

seems to be that a definite agree-

ment for a league of nations will

move many apprehensions growing

out of territorial perplexities and

strategic frontiers. By it may be said

that the matter will probably be post-

poned to the size of armaments

and the size of a league of nations

will necessarily be limited by the prac-

tical facts of a league of nations

can once such a thing has been

U. S. Envoys Make No Decision.

It is not true to say that the Ameri-

can mission has reached a decision

what it will recommend with respect

to the German fleet, as formal action

has not yet been taken. The question

of the whole question of the

of navies is taken up by the peace

conference, but nevertheless one Ameri-

can view, which has influential sup-

porters, argues that unless all the

German fleet is willing to distribute

the strength of the fleet as to

the world, the best thing to be done

is to put up all the warships

surrendered by Germany.

Holders of this view declare that

while admitting the preponderance of

sea power of other nations hitherto,

they do not believe that America can

afford any longer to be placed in a

position of relying solely upon the

British navy.

It is also contended that while Brit-

ain is any to sea naval scale, ex-

isting influence, America should not

content to depend for protection of her

long Atlantic and Pacific coasts on the

benevolence of the British navy, but

that American sea power should be the

equal of any other on the seas.

Indeed, these men go so far as to

urge that while they are anxious that

the two English-speaking democracies

of any league of nations, there ought to

be no objection to scaling the fleets down.

It is fully realized, however, that the

British may be unwilling to do this,

it is being urged that the American

naval program now before congress will

be the basis of the future of the

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## THE MAN WITH THE CLUB FOOT

By VALENTINE WILLIAMS

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CHAPTER I

I Seek a Bed in Rotterdam

The reception clerk looked up from

the hotel register and shook his head

firmly. "Very sorry, sir," he said.

"I want a bed in this house," he

said, "and I want it now." And he

looked at the book with a snap.

Outside the rain came down heavily

and the wind whistled through the

streets of Rotterdam.

I turned once more to the clerk who

was now busy at the desk.

"Haven't you really a corner?"

I wouldn't mind where it was, as it

was in the house, I said.

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"And here," said Dick, diving into his pocket, "is the writing."

Smartest Lieutenant ever pledged from

Gross-Lichterfeld, Berlin, 17th July, 16.

O Eichenholz! O Eichenholz!

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you have told me that Francis may have

actually got into Germany, then, I must